

ABSTRACT

Systems and methods for the sampling of bodily fluid from an incision in the skin include test strips which are positioned adjacent to the skin and which include features to inhibit the passage of the bodily fluid between the skin and the underside of the test strip.

- 5 One system utilizes a sealing member located on the bottom surface of the test strip and positioned to provide a fluid tight seal with the skin. A second system includes a recessed surface aligned with the inlet opening of the test strip to preclude contact of the bodily fluid directly with the bottom surface of the test strip. A third system involves the use of a hydrophobic surface on the underside of the test strip to inhibit wicking of the bodily fluid
- 10 along the test strip. The present invention further encompasses the combination of the foregoing sampling systems with each other, and with incising, expressing and/or testing systems and methods, particularly in a single, integrated device.